

Phase one of WNR program completed in Wiesbaden

Family housing renovations improve quality of life

By Marnah Woken

Europe District Public Affairs

The first of three phases of the Whole Neighborhood Revitalization (WNR) program is complete in Wiesbaden's Hainerberg Housing area.

The first phase, which began in November of last year, involves the renovation and modernization of 60 family housing units, and the reconfiguration of existing two-bedroom units into larger, four-and-five bedroom units.

The WNR program is designed to modernize and upgrade family housing units throughout U.S. Army, Europe (USAREUR), offering a better quality of life for soldiers and their families. The program involves the modernization of family housing buildings, utilities, streets, sidewalks, playgrounds and other neighborhood amenities.

"There is a much greater need for larger, four-and-five bedroom units in USAREUR," said Al Hasty, Europe District Project Engineer for the Wiesbaden Resident Office. "Through the WNR program, we've redesigned and reconfigured two-bedroom units that are much too small for families, and turn them into larger units."

Interior renovations and upgrades to each unit include fresh paint, new light fixtures, built-in closets and refurbished flooring. A second bath has also been added to each unit and individual washers and dryers have been installed, offering each family their own, private laundry facilities.

"The interior of each apartment has been completely renovated, but when it comes to the kitchens and the bathrooms, everything is completely new," said Hasty. "The kitchens have new cabinets and appliances and the bathrooms have new showers, sinks and bathtubs."

"We are lucky to have a conscientious contractor," he added. "There's also a lot of expertise and experience in housing, contracting and renovation work from the 221st Base Support Battalion (BSB) Directorate of Public Works (DPW). That really helps us in working with the contractor to get the best possible product given the money we have."

"The three phases include all of Hainerberg's Mississippi Avenue," said Karl Heinz Rudhart, 221st



Karl Heinz Rudhart, 221st BSB DPW Engineer Technician (pictured left) and Al Hasty, Europe District Project Engineer for the Wiesbaden Resident Office inspect one of the newly renovated kitchens in Wiesbaden's Hainerberg Housing area. (Photos by Marnah Woken)

BSB DPW Engineer Technician. "The second phase began in April of this year, and the third phase will begin next year. There are 54 units in the second phase and 58 units in the third phase. The cost for all three phases is approximately \$10.4 million."

The WNR program also involves exterior building renovations to include roof and entrance canopy repairs, as well as upgrades to the walkways, trash

areas, and doors.

“We learned a lot from the first phase,” said Hasty. “In the second and third phases, we’ve made some improvements based on our experiences. For example, we purchased light fixtures that are less expensive and more durable. We also know what to add to the contract in the last two phases, which saves us time and money in contract modifications.”

Keith Brittin of the 527th Military Police Company and his family live in one of the newly renovated units in Wiesbaden.

“The best part about it is that everything is brand new and in working order,” said Brittin. “We were in a two-bedroom unit before — now we have a lot more room.”

Throughout USAREUR, 564 family housing units are currently being upgraded and modernized as part of seven WNR projects. Eight more projects for 826 units are in design, according to Thomas Poole, Europe District Housing Program Project Manager.



Modernized kitchens complete with new appliances are included in the WNR program.



Keith Brittin, of the 527th Military Police Company in Wiesbaden enjoys his newly renovated kitchen in Wiesbaden’s Hainerberg Housing. Family housing units throughout USAREUR are being upgraded and modernized under the Whole Neighborhood Revitalization program.



The addition of a second bathroom under the WNR program improves the quality of life for military families.